BEFORE THE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION STATE OF IDAHO

In the Matter of the Charter Renewal for:

Case No. 22-52514

PEACE VALLEY CHARTER SCHOOL.

FINAL ORDER

On February 23, 2023, the Idaho Public Charter School Commission ("Commission") voted to accept and adopt the consent agreement signed by Peace Valley Charter School ("PVCS") and the Director of the Idaho Public Charter School Commission, thereby approving PVCS's renewal application and renewing PVCS's charter for a five-year operational term, to begin July 1, 2023, with the following conditions:

- 1. <u>Condition 1</u>: PVCS must achieve a Meets Standard rating on the Debt Service Coverage Ratio of the Commission's performance framework by November 15, 2023.
- 2. <u>Condition 2:</u> PVCS must achieve full accreditation through the State Board of Education's approved school accrediting body (currently Cognia) by June 1, 2024.

Part of PVCS's conditional approval in 2018 included the condition that the school achieve accreditation candidacy status by July 1, 2019 and achieve full accreditation by July 1, 2021. This condition was adopted based on the Commission's stated concerns that PVCS's academic program, as presented in the charter petition, may not be sufficient to produce the academic outcomes necessary to meet standard on the academic performance measures of the performance framework. PVCS did not meet this condition by the stated date, as it did not achieve accreditation candidacy status until April of 2022. Based on Cognia's accreditation procedures, within two years of a school's acceptance into candidacy status, the school will be reviewed to determine whether full accreditation

status will be awarded. The due date of this condition accounts for Cognia's two-year window within which PVCS will be reviewed.

3. <u>Condition 3</u>: PVCS must achieve a Meets Standard rating on the following financial

measures of the Commission's performance framework in fiscal year 2024: Total Margin, Cash Flow, Financial Compliance, and Debt to Asset Ratio. Since the corresponding data will be evaluated on or before November 15, 2024, the date by which this condition must be met is November 15, 2024.

PVCS did not meet standard on the Debt to Asset Ratio or Total Margin measures in fiscal year 2022. Financial measures are defined in the performance framework and shall be incorporated into PVCS's 2023-2028 performance certificate.

4. <u>Condition 4</u>: PVCS must achieve a Meets Standard rating on all operational measures of the Commission's performance framework in fiscal year 2024. Since the corresponding data will be evaluated on or before November 15, 2024, the date by which this condition must be met is November 15, 2024.

Operational measures include: Governance Structure, Governance Oversight,
Governance Compliance, Student Services, Data Security & Information Transparency,
Facility Services, and Operational Compliance. PVCS failed to meet standard on
multiple operational measures each year of its first operational term. Annual
performance reports issued by the Commission identify the known issues and cite
supporting documentation.

PVCS has acted to correct some of the issues, but failure to do so promptly is noted as an additional concern in several instances. PVCS has struggled with board turn

over, internal divisiveness, and a poor working relationship between the board and its administrator. These ongoing issues are noted in a courtesy letter issued by the Commission staff in 2019 and again in a letter issued by the Idaho School Board Association in 2022.

Outstanding compliance issues are noted in a letter of Findings and Recommended Corrective Actions which was issued to PVCS at the conclusion of a Commission complaint investigation on October 15, 2022. These findings, which include compliance issues with board policy, building safety, and operational procedures, are currently being addressed by PVCS.

5. <u>Condition 5</u>: PVCS must achieve a Meets Standard rating on the literacy proficiency measure of the Commission's performance framework in fiscal year 2024. Since the corresponding data will be evaluated on or before November 15, 2024, the date by which this condition must be met is November 15, 2024.

PVCS did not meet standard on the literacy proficiency measure in any operational year over the course of its performance certificate term. The literacy proficiency measure is defined in the performance framework and shall be incorporated into PVCS's 2023-2028 performance certificate.

6. <u>Condition 6</u>: PVCS must achieve a Meets Standard rating on the English language arts proficiency measure of the Commission's performance framework in fiscal year 2025. Since the corresponding data will be evaluated on or before November 15, 2025, the date by which this condition must be met is November 15, 2025.

PVCS did not meet standard on the English language arts proficiency measure in any operational year over the course of its performance certificate term. The English

language arts proficiency measure is defined in the performance framework and shall be

incorporated into PVCS's 2023-2028 performance certificate.

7. Condition 7: PVCS must achieve a Meets Standard rating on the math

proficiency measure of the Commission's performance framework in fiscal year 2025.

Since the corresponding data will be evaluated on or before November 15, 2025, the date

by which this condition must be met is November 15, 2025.

PVCS did not meet standard on the math proficiency measure in any operational

year over the course of its performance certificate term. The math proficiency measure is

defined in the performance framework and shall be incorporated into PVCS's 2023-2028

performance certificate.

Peace Valley Charter School shall comply with the conditions set forth above.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: March 7, 2023.

STATE OF IDAHO PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION

ALAN REED Chairman

APPEAL INFORMATION¹

This is a final order of the agency. Any party may file a motion for reconsideration of this final order within 14 days of the service date of this order. The agency will dispose of the petition for reconsideration within 21 days of its receipt, or the petition will be considered denied by operation of law. *See* Idaho Code § 67-5246(4).

Pursuant to Idaho Code sections 67-5270 and 67-5272, any party aggrieved by this final order or orders previously issued in this case may appeal this final order and all previously issued orders in this case to district court by filing a petition in the district court of the county in which:

(a) a hearing was held, (b) the final agency action was taken, (c) the party seeking review of the order resides, or operates its principal place of business in Idaho, or (d) the real property or personal property that was the subject of the agency action is located.

An appeal must be filed within 28 days (a) of the service date of this final order, (b) of an order denying petition for reconsideration, or (c) the failure within 21 days to grant or deny a petition for reconsideration, whichever is later. *See* Idaho Code § 67-5273. The filing of an appeal to district court does not itself stay the effectiveness or enforcement of the order under appeal.

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¹ Idaho regulations require this information be provided in all final orders. *See* IDAPA 04.11.01.740.02. However, due to the Consent Agreement signed by both the school and the Director of the Idaho Public Charter School Commission, and the adoption of the Consent Agreement by the Idaho Public Charter School Commission, it is likely not pertinent to this case.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on March 7, 2023, I caused to be served a true and correct copy of the foregoing by the following method to:

William Paul Board of Directors Chairperson Peace Valley Charter School, Inc. 1845 S Federal Way, Boise, ID 83705 w.paul@boisewaldorf.org	U.S. Mail Hand Delivery Overnight Mail Facsimile: Email
Andrew Ross Principal Peace Valley Charter School 1845 S Federal Way, Boise, ID 83705 a.ross@boisewaldorf.org	U.S. Mail Hand Delivery Overnight Mail Facsimile: Email

Sheri Johnson, Administrative Assistant Idaho Public Charter School Commission